



St Mary & St Thomas'

Church of England Primary School

Executive Principal: Mrs. Kirsty Haw B.Ed (Hons)
Headteacher: Mrs. Lyndsey Lewis BA (Hons), M.A.



9 May 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Hand Spinners

Can I make you aware of the following about 'Hand Spinners', which are a fidget toy and the latest craze for Young People. As per most things there is always a dark side, the hand spinners are now being produced in the form of throwing stars etc.



What are they?

Fidget toys are tiny, pocket-sized toys intended to keep hands busy. A step up from stress balls, they typically feature little buttons, switches and joysticks that move back and forth, or propellers that spin. But the toys are being marketed as stress relievers or to help kids burn up pent-up energy that so often gets them into trouble. Some claim to have been modelled after stress tools for kids with ADHD (attention deficit hyperactivity disorder); others say they're just for fun.

The most popular of the fidget toys are fidget spinners that are mesmerizing to simply watch, but can also be used for tricks. The spinners typically feature two or more propellers and a low-friction, ball bearing centre that allow them to spin for a minute or more at a time.

While they spin, users transfer them from hand to hand or finger to finger, while tossing them in the air.

However, there are spinners available with blades, retractable blades which are available online – some go by different names such as Naruto Shuriken Turn darts, Naruto Shuriken and Naruto Dragon.

Believe, Achieve, Shine

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Please be mindful for the safety of yourselves and children. Any Young Person in possession of throwing stars or any object with a blade attached leaves them open to being dealt with for being in possession of a blade on school premises and throwing stars are themselves an offensive weapons.

We have therefore taken the decision to ban handspinners from being brought onto school premises. Provision will be made in school for any child that requires a fiddle toy/spinner to manage their anxiety whilst in school.

Yours faithfully

Linda Smith
Director of Wellbeing

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